SCALES improves the quality of life in the community in terms of social justice and human rights, by providing fair and equal access to ethical and competent legal education, training, research, advice, referrals and advocacy.
SCALES Community Legal Centre

Vision:
SCALES improves the quality of life in the community in terms of social justice and human rights, by providing fair and equal access to ethical and competent legal education, training, research, advice, referrals and advocacy.

Values:
✧ People deserve to be treated with respect, dignity and consideration.
✧ Human rights include a right to legal information and legal education.
✧ Individual legal problems often reflect broad social difficulties.
✧ Communities should participate in and influence the work of community legal centres.

Mission:
SCALES seeks to:
✧ Develop the confidence, skills and ethics of law students through clinical legal education in a community-based environment.
✧ Facilitate access to justice for low income and disadvantaged members of the Southern Communities region.

Rockingham Office
Suite 3, 14 Council Avenue           Tel: 08 9550 0400
ROCKINGHAM WA 6168                  Fax: 08 9527 4802
PO Box 542, ROCKINGHAM WA 6966
Office Hours:
9.00am to 5.00pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
9.00am to noon Monday and Friday

Murdoch Office
Room 2.102 Law Building              Tel: 08 9360 6572
School of Law, Murdoch University    Fax: 08 9360 6996
South Street, MURDOCH WA 6150
Email: scales@murdoch.edu.au
Website: www.law.murdoch.edu.au/scales
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The SCALES Team

**Management Committee**

Helen Makeham  
Chairperson

Margaret Duff  
Deputy Chairperson

Mieke Dixon  
Secretary

Karoline Jamieson  
Treasurer, February to May 2011  
Committee Member May to June 2011

Gordon Howe  
Treasurer May to June 2011

Margaret Flower  
Committee Member

Nicola Gannon  
Committee Member

Gai Walker  
Acting Director

**Patron**

Chris Shanahan SC  
Barrister

**Members**

Mieke Dixon  
Margaret Duff  
Eric Fisher

Margaret Flower  
Nicola Gannon  
Ron Hassall

Gordon Howe  
Mary Anne Kenny  
Helen Makeham

Michael Perrella  
Gai Walker

Communicare Inc represented by Karoline Jamieson

Jerroldine Gilbert (Life Member from October 2009)

**Solicitors and Barristers Volunteers**

Richard Hooker  
Stephen Walker  
Tim Hammond

Chris Shanahan  
Mary Anne Kenny  
Richard Hooker

Matt Howard  
Daniel Loreck  
Rhonda Griffith
## SCALES Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Commenced</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amanda McGow</td>
<td>Principal Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Director of Clinical Legal Programs, Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor, Migration Agent (maternity leave from February 2011)</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aoning Li</td>
<td>Tenant Advocate</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandrika D’Mello</td>
<td>Migration Agent</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clea Brierley</td>
<td>Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor, Acting Director of Clinical Legal Programs, Family and Domestic Violence Solicitor</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle Healey</td>
<td>Tenant Advocate</td>
<td>2009</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Fort</td>
<td>Clinic Supervisor, Family and Domestic Violence Solicitor</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gai Walker</td>
<td>Acting Director, Coordinator</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jade Glenister</td>
<td>Migration Agent</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kirsty Fentiman</td>
<td>Migration Agent</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee McLeay</td>
<td>Solicitor, Clinic Supervisor, Migration Agent</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydia Ralph</td>
<td>Migration Agent/Solicitor</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion Huntly</td>
<td>Clinic Supervisor, LPM WA Coordinator, January 2011</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Anne Kenny</td>
<td>Migration Agent</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Novela Aleksic</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Horn</td>
<td>Admin Officer</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shan Xavier</td>
<td>LAWA Seconded Family and Domestic Violence Solicitor (5 months)</td>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Administration Volunteers

- Margaret Flower
- Glynnes Rynn
- Dean New
- Helen Makeham (Migration)
The SCALES Team cont.

**Lawyers Practice Manual Authors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Author</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tyrone Berger</td>
<td>Annie Gray</td>
<td>Merinda Logie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amanda Blackburn</td>
<td>Adam Halstead</td>
<td>Lee Mather</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pia Bonifant</td>
<td>Tim Hammond</td>
<td>Patrick Mugliston</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rob Campbell Watt</td>
<td>Yvonne Henderson</td>
<td>Basil Newnham</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Hal Colebatch</td>
<td>Mark Herron</td>
<td>Paul Nichols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Greg Isolani</td>
<td>Damien Norris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Cuerden</td>
<td>Colin James</td>
<td>Paula Parentich</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle J Davies</td>
<td>Margaret Jordan</td>
<td>David Parry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Edwards</td>
<td>Colin Kaeser</td>
<td>Andrew Robson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toni Emmanuel</td>
<td>Arch Kaminkas</td>
<td>Joan Squelch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natasha Erlandson</td>
<td>Tim Kennedy</td>
<td>Dr Kathryn Trees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Fielding</td>
<td>Mary Anne Kenny</td>
<td>Lee Vickers</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Garnsworthy</td>
<td>Bruce Legorburu</td>
<td>Bertus de Villiers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremy Giles</td>
<td>Anna Liscia</td>
<td>Stephen Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Louanha Lloyd</td>
<td>Ann-Margaret Walsh</td>
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**Seminar Presenters**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All SCALES staff</td>
<td>Introductory seminar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amanda McGow</td>
<td>Court Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anna Copeland</td>
<td>Barriers to effective legal assistance, thinking legally – frameworks, legal research, file management, PII issues, interviewing and letter writing and drafting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Greenshields</td>
<td>Legal Resources</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Murdoch Law Librarian)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clea Brierley</td>
<td>Family Law, Advanced Family Law – Mediation and Negotiation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Fort</td>
<td>Family and Domestic Violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhonda Horn</td>
<td>Office Procedure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assoc Prof Jill Howieson</td>
<td>Advanced Family Law – Mediation and Negotiation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SCALES Staff

Amanda McGow, Principal Solicitor and Clinic Supervisor

Amanda continues her responsibilities as Principal Solicitor, in addition to teaching in the general law clinic unit.

Amanda is the Course Coordinator for the Advanced Advocacy Unit and also supervises the tenant advocate.

Anna Copeland, Director of Clinical Legal Programs

Anna is the Director of Clinical Legal Programs, looking after the clinical legal education side of the SCALES practice. She also continues to work in the immigration and human rights practice and supervises students in the advanced clinical stream.

Anna’s work this year included further development of student involvement in the human rights practice, contributions to major submissions at state, federal and international level. She is currently on maternity leave.

Clea Brierley, Clinic Supervisor

Clea supervises in the general clinic as well as being the Course Coordinator and supervisor in the Advanced Family Law Unit.

As well as supervising the Family and Domestic Violence practice, Clea attends the Family Relationships legal advice roster and participates in the Legal Aid WA Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution pilot. Clea has also acted as the Director of Clinical Legal Programs in Anna Copeland’s absence.

Gai Walker, Acting Director

In her role as Acting Director, Gai has management responsibility to ensure that SCALES strategic plans and policies as established by the Management Committee are met. She also works as maintaining relationships with the community and stakeholders as well as providing CLE on the work of SCALES.

Danielle Healey, Tenant Advocate and Community Legal Education Projects Officer

Danielle continues her work as the part time Tenant Advocate attending the Rockingham Magistrates Court each week and providing advice and negotiation relating to tenancy issues.

Danielle has also provided training and network opportunities for local service providers who have clients with tenancy issues. Danielle continues her participation in the South West Metropolitan Regional Working Group on Homelessness.

Rhonda Horn, Administration Officer

Rhonda’s is often the first person people speak to at SCALES. We are lucky to have someone who treats all the people she deals with, with respect while at the same time, being able to draw out their issues.

As well as managing the client services, she has responsibility for the maintenance of the client database and client files including archiving and destruction of closed files.
Novela Aleksic, Finance Officer

Novela’s expertise in the financial management at SCALES is highly regarded by the committee, staff and SCALES funders and service providers.

Novela has responsibility for asset management which includes IT support. She also supports Rhonda with client first contact and other tasks that ensure the office runs smoothly.

Marion Huntly

Marion has worked at SCALES a number of times on short contracts. It is great to have her back from her Tasmanian adventure firstly with a short term contract as a clinic supervisor and then as Coordinator of the Lawyers Practice Manual.

Dave Fort

Dave had his own practice before he came to SCALES to work as the Family and Domestic Violence solicitor as well as supervising in the clinic. Dave is a former SCALES student and helped us out at the weekly Salvation Army Genesis clinic.

Lee McLeay

Lee is employed to work as a migration agent and law clinic supervisor to cover Anna’s absence on maternity leave. Lee has a family law background and during her law degree studies worked as a tenant advocate at Sussex Street Community Law Service, so has a good understanding of community legal centres.

Kirstein Fentiman

Kirsty has taken over from Vanessa Moss as the part time migration agent. She is an experienced migration agent and is in her final year of her law degree.

Jade Glenister

Jade came to us as the Allens Arthur Robinson 3 month human rights pro bono solicitor. She worked briefly as a migration agent to help cover Anna’s absence on maternity leave.

Mary Anne Kenny

Mary Anne made herself available to mentor the new migration agents during Anna’s absence. She also continues to volunteer in the immigration practice as well as making herself available for all kinds of requests from us.
Law Clinic Students

**Semester Two 2010**

**Law 390 General Clinic**
- Bavanishthan Sooriyapava
- Jess Richards
- Kara Churchward
- Michelle Nguyen
- Anastazia Domican
- Charles LAI Yik Yu
- Jess Goudge
- Sarah Anne Meyerkort
- Amirah Abdullah
- Andrew James Cowie
- Marsouw Venter
- Nadine da Silva

**Law 385 Advanced Family Law Clinic**
- Alen Sinanovic
- Kylie Truscott
- Phillip Lovatt
- Helen Ngo
- Kathryn Jamieson
- Taryn Calder

**Law 385 Advanced Human Rights and Immigration Clinic**
- Vikacha Chongwe
- Dahlia Messiha
- Joseph (Gino) Lopez
- James Morrison
- Tess McEvoy

**Summer 2010/2011**

**Law 385 Advanced Family Law Clinic**
- Leah Keegan

**Advance Clinic Human Rights / Immigration**
- Pasan Wijesuriya
- Khalid Hersi
- Lisa Penman
- Nerolie Nikolic

**Semester 1 2011**

**Law 390 Students**
- Christopher Hicks
- Damaris Terebent
- Divvya Doss
- Mark Cheveralls
- Mitchell Earnshaw
- Shaban Azad
- Jaime Greenacre
- Rebecca Chia Wei Lin
- Ryan Tozer
- Simone Chee
- Vicky Cullen

**Law 385 Family Law Students**
- Bobbee Whittome
- Jacinda Hansen
- Mike Southern
- Natalie Sandman
Student Gallery
Chair’s Report

Helen Makeham

This is my first report as Chair for SCALES, an organisation that provides systemic and tangible benefits to the local community and the development of future legal professionals. SCALES provides a subtle but significant resource for people who are disadvantaged in our region. Having recourse to efficient and effective legal advice and representation makes a huge difference to the lives of those who seek assistance and those, who in turn, that rely upon them.

Where We Started From

The SCALES Committee of Management (the Committee) entered the reporting period unaware of some of the challenges that lay ahead. For a substantial part of the reporting period the Committee has concerned itself with applicable governance matters.

The Committee had before it the consideration of the strategic review of SCALES undertaken by Jill Cameron & Associates. The review articulated a number of broad recommendations considering future organisational structure and development activities. Acting upon a number of these recommendations SCALES engaged the resources of Blue Zoo to undertake risk management training and WACOSS for broader Governance training for members and selected staff.

Additionally, a review of the SCALES’ human resource processes has also been initiated through the auspices of All 4 People. Mindful of the need for someone with a finance background the Committee also sought out a new member and was successful with getting Gordon Howe on board in May 2011.

Endings & Beginnings?

In June SCALES was advised that its tender for IAAAS (2011-2017) service had been unsuccessful. We note that another significant service, Legal Aid, in Western Australia was also amongst other unsuccessful candidates. The Committee sought and received feedback on the document which occurred in late August. During this process the opportunity was also taken to verbalise our concerns regarding the apparent lack of assistance for clients with complex cases and those needing higher level review. At present the SCALES’ Migration practice is in wind down mode.

The Committee has recently received correspondence for Murdoch University seeking to review its agreement with SCALES.

Where Are We Going?

The Committee will continue to work with Janet Cooper (All 4 People) to tie down an organisational structure that ensures the infrastructure to support SCALES’ present activities and that also provides capacity for future growth.

The Management Committee has considered the feasibility of having either a General Manager and a senior solicitor or alternatively a solicitor / General Manager position.

However, the title of CEO has been adopted as this assists with the external promotion of this position as well as providing some flexibility. Janet Cooper will assist the Committee to develop a duty statement and criteria for the CEO position and the position of a Principal Solicitor.

The Committee is considering opportunities for funding the migration practice elsewhere and this will be pursued but until that is crystallised the migration practice has to continue in downgrade mode.

The Committee also considers the future renegotiations with Murdoch University as an opportunity to consider new and wider ranging service delivery opportunities for students pursuing a career in law.

Acknowledgements

I am encouraged that, even though we are in uncertain times, our Committee members have shown their engagement with SCALES through their preparedness to support and guide our organisation. There have been several extraordinary meetings as well as weekend training that members have made themselves
available to participate in. Margaret Duff has been an integral member of the Committee and we would like to let her know that our thoughts are with her during her ongoing treatment. We all wish her well and miss her contributions.

On behalf of the Committee and our members I also thank all the SCALES staff and volunteers for their continued diligence and patience during what has been a particularly stressful period.
Acting Directors Report

The success of the Lotterywest grant has taken and given a lot of energy this year. I have written a separate report on the specifics of that grant. The opportunity to carry out a comprehensive review of SCALES operations and the current management and operating structure could really only be taken with grants such as the organisational development from Lotterywest. The decision to seek funds for the review was to ensure the organisation and its services reflect current best practice in the community legal service and clinical legal sector and to review the relevance of the service for the local community.

The Review by Jill Cameron and Peter Alexander has been presented to the Management Committee and plans are being developed to work with the recommendations and conclusions. The report affirmed the value of SCALES both as a Community Legal Centre and a Law Clinic. It has identified challenges and highlighted opportunities.

Funding

This year we have experienced changes in funding with the loss of the IAAAS tender and the introduction and increase in other grants. SCALES was funded to provide immigration advice under the Immigration Application Advice and Assistance Scheme for over 12 years. In June this year, we were advised that we had been unsuccessful in our tender to continue this work and have ceased taking on new clients and will down this practice unless we can locate new funding.

SCALES will participate in the Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution pilot (CFDR), a federally funded Legal Aid WA project. Families with past or current family violence who have been assessed as suitable to participate, can work with safe and supported options to allow them to try to resolve their disputes outside court with the aim to achieve safe and sustainable post-separation parenting outcomes.

Partners in the CFDR include Legal Aid WA Dispute Resolution practitioners, community legal centres, domestic violence services and men’s services.

The West Australian government announced in its May state budget that state funded programs would receive a 15% increase in funding as an acknowledgement of the need for increased wages in the community sector as well as a CPI increase. Each state department then had to assess which projects were eligible. SCALES tenancy project and the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network were both recipients of this funding increase. Negotiations are continuing with the South Coastal Women’s Health Service in relation to the FAAST funding.

Staff

SCALES is very lucky to have had stable and longstanding core staff members in key roles. While there are opportunities and challenges with funding, it is very important for us to maintain that expertise within the service. SCALES staff members are highly regarded by community legal centres, local community organisations, other clinical legal educators and the legal profession.

As noted in the Legal Practice report, legal staff are now required to meet the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) requirements of 10 points each year in 3 areas of legal skills or practice, ethics or professional responsibility and substantive law. All legal staff met these requirements for last year and are working towards their requirements for this year.

The Community Legal Centres Association, Legal Aid and private firms have all contributed to providing CPD free of charge to minimise the cost. This also means not having to attend 2 hour sessions in the city but attend full day blocks of training in relevant areas of practice for CLC staff.

There are many opportunities for training during each year, often due to responsibilities within the Law Clinic it is difficult for staff to attend. This year staff members were able to attend training and information sessions in Changes to the Enduring Power of Guardianship and Advanced Health Directives; Murdoch University staff seminar on How to Deal with the
Media; changes to the DCP Coordinated Case Management; Rhonda and Gai completed all CLSIS training sessions online via Webex (this is a great way to utilise technology and both found it very easy); WACOSS forums on emerging issues for the community sector; Novela keeps up to date with superannuation by attending sessions offered by our main provider Westscheme (now known as Australian Super). Clea has attended a number of Family Relationships Centre staff training sessions by CLC solicitors.

Almost all staff attended a training and awareness session that was organised to inform them on the Employee Assistance Program support available to them and to talk about identifying and managing stress and resilience. All the participants responded positively to the opportunity to think about stressors in their work and how they as individuals and SCALES as their employee to work towards maintaining wellbeing in the workplace.

The decision to not host a clinic over the 2010/2011 summer semester was made to ensure that the refurbishment and refit of the offices was able to be carried out without disruption to students and to ensure the office was ready for Semester One 2011.

During the summer semester, SCALES staff met and planned some priorities for the non student period. The casework guidelines, introductory seminar, orientation and a number of other administrative documents were reviewed and updated. The Advanced Family Law unit was also reviewed.

Solicitors maintained the legal service by seeing clients directly on a roster basis or as needed.

Management Committee
The last AGM saw the retirement of Acting and former Chair, Michael Perrella, a long standing member of the management committee and a former SCALES student and volunteer. Our sincere thanks for your contribution over the years and we wish you all the best in private practice.

Margaret Flower is the longest standing committee member who has volunteered on the committee and in the office for over 11 years now. All other members of the committee have less than three years with us.

The committee have embraced their role and responsibilities and have already participated in training in governance, risk management and reading financial reports. This ensured that all of the committee members have a common base level of understanding, they also bring their own skill set and experience to SCALES.

The time spent by the committee at meetings and the work done between them has ensured the stability of SCALES and is greatly appreciated by the staff, members and the wider community.

Priorities
I believe our priorities in the next year will be to ensure the ongoing viability of SCALES. We will work through the recommendations of the Review, develop a new strategic plan and set the scene for SCALES for the next three to five years. While existing partnerships are strong, we need to analyse our capacity to maintain all of our existing relationships, networks and partnerships.

I am confident that we have the goodwill and expertise within the service to continue to provide relevant and appropriate legal services to the Rockingham and Kwinana region and to Murdoch University law students.

Gai Walker
Legal Practice Report

Where, after all, do universal human rights begin? In small places, close to home...Such are the places where every man, woman and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity, equal dignity without discrimination.

Eleanor Roosevelt

SCALES continues to provide a high quality legal service to the Rockingham and Kwinana community through our Student Clinic and our Specialist Services. The lawyers and tenant advocate manage a significant caseload independently of these services with invaluable assistance from the support staff.

For this reporting period, the SCALES legal team have provided legal advice and casework to over 750 clients, generally facing economic, social or cultural disadvantage and with multiple inter-related problems affecting their family’s entire life circumstances.

SCALES has assisted these clients to protect their legal rights and help them to understand their legal obligations by providing quality legal advice in a holistic framework.

In addition to the casework, information and referrals have been made to close to 1000 members of the SCALES community.

Some of the more challenging work involved managing the complex legal issues for our clients experiencing family and domestic violence. It is not uncommon for these clients to require assistance with family law matters, housing, care and protection, restraining orders, criminal matters and criminal injuries compensation applications.

The tenant advocate maintained our presence at the Rockingham Magistrates’ Court, negotiating outcomes for tenants. Danielle advocates on behalf of clients to develop solutions to assist them remaining in public, private and community housing. In the process, a good working relationship has been fostered with the Department of Housing, producing good outcomes for our clients.

TACS remains an important part of our Service, and gives students the opportunity to appear before the court advocating on behalf of tenants (usually for the first time).

The Family Law Practice was in high demand with over 50% of the work being related to arrangements for children (lives with and spends time with), other issues include family dispute resolution, Hague Convention applications, divorce, child support and initial property law advice (in limited circumstances).

The family law practice incorporates the Advanced Family Law Clinic, the Family Relationships Centre CLC Project and the Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution Pilot with Legal Aid.

In circumstances where there were entrenched problems between our client and the other party, we assisted with initiating court applications for parenting orders and continued to provide these clients with ongoing assistance including drafting affidavits, and preparing the client to self represent.

The Student Clinic managed various matters including debt, criminal charges, traffic offences, criminal injuries compensation applications, family law, tenancy, immigration, misconduct and violence restraining orders and consumer disputes.

This year, the Legal Profession Conduct Act 2010 came into operation. The Rules require all legal practitioners to accrue Continuing Professional Development points in the areas of legal skills, ethics and substantive law.

SCALES lawyers attended training throughout the year provided by Legal Aid and the CLC association and all solicitors complied with the requirements.

Amanda McGow
Principal Solicitor
SCALES continues to develop its clinical legal education units for Murdoch University law students. In semester 2, 2010 we offered the new Advanced Clinical Legal Education unit in family law. This unit was set up with funding from the Commonwealth Attorney General’s Department. The funding extends for a further 18 months.

In semester 1, 2010, Anna and I attended a lecture of the substantive family law unit at Murdoch University to promote the unit to students. The family law clinic was set up with the substantive family law unit as a pre-requisite. Within an hour of our presentation, we had 15 enquiries for the 6 places. In semester 1, 2011, we had a lot fewer eligible students because the substantive unit wasn’t scheduled to run again until semester 2, 2011. To deal with this going into semester 2, we modified our training component at the beginning of the clinical unit to allow for students concurrently enrolled in the substantive family law unit.

Murdoch University’s Associate Professor Lisa Young, who lectures in the substantive family law unit, also promoted our clinical unit as a complimentary unit for the substantive family law unit.

The family law clinical unit has increased SCALES’ capacity to advise clients involved in the family dispute resolution process as well as provide students with hands-on experience of the family law legislation focus on negotiated agreements. One of our students from semester 1, 2011, has been successful in obtaining a position to train as a family dispute resolution practitioner. She recently wrote, “I got the job. Thank you so much. Thanks for everything it’s because of you and the clinic that I got the position.”

The other advanced clinical units (advocacy stream and immigration stream) also ran in the last year. The advocacy stream currently requires completion of the general clinic and continues to produce graduates with ongoing interest in the community legal centre sector and pro bono work. In 2010 we again had a graduate of the advocacy stream employed in a community legal centre after graduation.

The immigration stream again had significant interest from students, taking students who had completed the general clinic as well as students who had completed international human rights units at Murdoch. SCALES’ profile in the area of immigration law has always been a great motivation for students to engage in our clinical units.

The general clinic continues to be significantly oversubscribed each semester. Currently we give preference to final year students and students with more than a year of their degree left are not likely to get a place. Although we are not able to provide for cross institutional enrolments because we prioritise Murdoch University students, we continue to have a significant number of enquiries from students of the University of Western Australia and Notre Dame.

One of our graduates from first semester 2011 continued at SCALES as a volunteer with the time credited to his professional practice qualification. We are currently looking at modifying some of our advanced units to meet the two day a week requirement for credit to the College of Laws professional practice qualification.

Clea Brierley
Acting Director Clinical Legal Programs
Family and Domestic Violence Legal Practice

SCALES is funded by two separate grants to provide services to victims of family and domestic violence from the Rockingham and Kwinana region.

At the start of this year we had the support of Legal Aid WA in the form of a secondment of a solicitor in the family and domestic violence practice while advertising for a new practitioner. Shan Xavier who has worked at SCALES before in a similar placement provided legal services to our clients in family and domestic violence matters. The support from Legal Aid cannot be underestimated and is greatly appreciated.

Dave Fort, a former SCALES student with his own generalist practice accepted the offer to work full time as the FDV solicitor and law clinic supervisor. Dave provided back up to the Genesis Law Clinic while Anna was in Geneva teaching the Human Rights unit and then started a short contract to teach in the clinic two days per week before being offered full time work. Dave has experience in family law, criminal law, family violence and criminal injuries compensation.

The WA state budget announcements provided a boon to our DVLWN service with a 15% increase as well as a 4% CPI payment. We are still to confirm the status of the FAST funding and whether we will receive the 15% and CPI under this grant.

Since 1998, the service was based on the collaborative model of family and domestic violence services delivered in conjunction with a counsellor based at the South Coastal Women’s Health Service. This innovative project is called FAST – the Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team.

Since 2004 the Western Australian government has provided funding through their Community Legal Services Program for one funded position as part of the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network (DVLWN).

Both sources of funding have allowed SCALES to expand its practice and participate in appropriate networks.

Glynès Rynn our former FDV solicitor has been very generous in working with us to complete the 6 monthly reports to the DCP. Glynès’ continued commitment to SCALES has made the transition for Dave much easier.

Community Relationships and Events

SCALES staff facilitated a combined stall of local family and domestic violence services at the Kwinana Hub Open Day, Kwinana Festival and Rockingham Community Fair.

This year the Kwinana Festival Parade was the chosen avenue to march and bring “Say NO to Family Violence” to the attention of the public. The banner and our marchers were first in the parade behind the Police marshal vehicle. About 25 staff, clients and management committee members of local family violence services, Police and members of parliament, Roger Cook MLA, Member for Kwinana and Paul Papalia MLA, Member for Warnbro and the Leader of the Opposition, Eric Ripper marched with us to the Festival grounds. The response from people watching the parade was heartening with many cheering and calling out support.

In December we attended two farewell events for longstanding members of staff in the Family Violence Court at Rockingham. Magistrate Brian Gluestein finished in Rockingham Magistrates Court in December and transferred to Joondalup in January. Magistrate Sue Richardson will commence in January splitting her time between Armadale and Rockingham.

Family Violence Service officer Rochelle Watson was also farewelled in early December before she departed on maternity leave.

Committees and Networks

SCALES staff participate in are the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network at all three levels and the and the South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service (SMIFAS) including the Case Management system where appropriate. These network meetings were attended by Gai, Clea and Dave.
As part of the SMIFAS, SCALES shared in the City of Rockingham Celebrating Rockingham Awards 2010, Community Partnerships Award. This is a great recognition of the local domestic violence services in Rockingham.

**Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution (CFDR)**

Legal Aid WA is one of five organisations across the country to in a pilot program for CFDR. This pilot of family dispute resolution (FDR) provides families facing violence with safe and supported options to allow them to try to resolve their disputes outside court. It provides these safeguards by involving a range of professionals working collaboratively using a case management approach.

In families where there is past or current family violence and the family is assessed as suitable to participate, CFDR aims to achieve safe and sustainable post-separation parenting outcomes.

An initial risk assessment is carried out by a specialist worker and includes a safety plan; participation in this special model of FDR involves advocates for each client and follow up with the parties involved. It is flexible and adaptable, and involves a range of professionals with defined roles and responsibilities working together collaboratively.

These organisations have partnered with other professional organisations such as community legal centres, domestic violence services and men’s services to achieve the objectives of the CFDR model.

SCALES has partnered in this pilot and Clea Brierley has already provided client advice.

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**Family Abuse & Advocacy Support Team**

**FAAST Services include:**

- Counselling
- Legal advice
- Court support
- Court representation
- Telephone advice and support
- Formal referrals
- Information
- Informal referrals
- Support for children
- Community education
- Support and advocacy

The Family Abuse & Advocacy Support Team (FAAST) service continues to provide a coordinated and professional service to victims of family and domestic violence in the Rockingham and Kwinana area.

As part of this collaborative project with the South Coastal Women’s Health Service, SCALES provides legal services such as legal advice, assistance with applications and court representation while the South Coastal Women’s Health Service provides emotional and practical support through their counselling service.

Additional services have since been funded to provide group therapy and educational programmes for children who had been directly and indirectly affected by domestic and family violence through the South Coastal Women’s Health Service.

**Legal Services**

Initial services relate to the safety of the victim and their children. After initial legal advice, applications for Violence Restraining Orders are often made. In some matters applications for Legal Aid are made on behalf of the client.

Other services include negotiation with Police, access to property and belongings, tenancy matters and family law matters usually by assisting in negotiating children’s issues and the preparation of Family Court documents.

Requests for assistance in relation to
representation for final restraining order hearings are very much in demand.
The involvement of the Department of Child Protection in family violence matters has brought us a number of complex cases that have demanded a lot of time.
Most of the family and domestic violence clients seen at SCALES are referred from the Lucy Saw Centre, the local women’s and children’s refuge and the Rockingham Magistrates Court.
Requests for assistance with applications for criminal injuries compensation (CIC) have increased markedly.

![Kwinana Festival Parade, Say NO to Domestic Violence march, October 2010](image)

**Domestic Violence Legal Workers’ Network**

The DV Legal Workers’ Network (the Network) is a Network of legal and other workers specialising in domestic and family violence. The Women’s Law Centre hosts the Coordinator of the Network, who resources the network by:

- convening regular meetings of specialist DV legal workers to facilitate professional collaboration;
- developing law reform submissions in relation to family violence;
- conducting further advocacy in relation to legal policy and law reform (especially relating to restraining orders) by engaging with other areas of the community sector;
- providing regular legal updates to the network; and
- facilitating identified training and professional development needs.

Some of the highlights of this year’s work include:

**National Plan of Action to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children (NPoA)**

As the Network has engaged in lobbying regarding the National Plan since 2008, we were pleased when Kate Ellis, the Minister for Status of Women, and Robert McClelland, the Commonwealth Attorney General, announced the endorsement of the National Plan of Action by state and territory governments on 15 February 2011.

The primary aims of the plan are:

1. to reduce domestic and family violence and sexual assault against women and their children
2. to improve how governments work together
3. to increase support for women and their children
4. to create innovative and targeted ways to bring about attitudinal and behavioural change
Essentially, the National Plan provides the framework for action, setting out six national outcomes for all governments to deliver during the next 12 years:

1- Communities are safe and free from harm
2- Relationships are respectful
3- Indigenous communities are strengthened
4- Service meet the needs of women and their children experiencing violence
5- Justice responses are effective
6- Perpetrators stop their violence and are held to account

These outcomes will be delivered through four, three-year action plans, the first of which runs from 2010 to 2013. Each action plan will address all national outcomes, while allowing States and Territories to act in locally relevant and responsive ways.

There is still a lot of lobbying that needs to be undertaken in regards to the development of the State Implementation Plans and the progression of National Plan. The Network will continue to lobby and engage with both state and federal governments for adequate and effective consultation, policy and funding initiatives, as well as facilitating collaboration among community workers to improve the prevention and responses to family violence.

Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) - Education and Lobbying Project

From 2009-2011 the YWCA Australia was a lead agency on an Australian Government contract to develop a CEDAW Shadow Report, an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women’s CEDAW Report, and follow-up materials. The Network Coordinator was a representative on the CEDAW Project Advisory Group, which comprised representatives from community and women’s organisations. The Advisory Group met throughout the duration of the project and provided input in regards to the development of the shadow reports (presented by a sub-committee to the United Nations in New York) and the CEDAW Action Plan which brings together theme-based resource sheets that set out the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee and the steps governments need to take to implement these recommendations.

The Network will continue to prioritise lobbying around the CEDAW Action Plan to ensure the Australian Government implements the recommendations of the CEDAW Committee.

Family Law Legislation Amendments (family violence and other measures) Bill 2011

On 24 March 2011 the Attorney-General, Robert McClelland introduced into Parliament changes to reform the Family Law Act to strengthen protections against family violence and child abuse.

The Family Law Legislation Amendment (Family Violence and Other Measures) Bill 2011 will make some positive changes including broader definitions of family violence and child abuse, greater priority for safety and the removal of disincentives to reporting family violence.

The Network has been supportive of this initiative as it is a great first step, but believes more is needed to ensure the family law system is not jeopardising the safety of children and their carers affected by family violence. As such, the Network has engaged in the Women’s Legal Services Australia’s "Put Safety First in Family Law" campaign (www.safetyinfamilylaw.com) which calls on the government to introduce a range of initiatives into the Family Law Act (including supporting the Bill) to better protect those affected by family violence.

In addition to writing submissions and developing campaign material, the Network also engaged community organisations in the campaign by providing them with tools to assist and encourage their submission writing.

On 30 May 2011 the Bill was passed by the House of Representatives with the support of Independent Members Tony Windsor, Rob Oakshott and Andrew Wilke and Greens Member Adam Bandt, making for a two vote margin.

Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill

The Network has engaged in lobbying Members of the Legislative Assembly regarding the proposed amendments of the Residential Tenancies Amendment Bill in relation to victims of domestic and family violence. The Bill proposes a number of amendments to provide a range of protections for tenants, but has no specific provisions in relation to tenants affected by family and domestic violence.
The Network wrote letters to all Members of the Legislative Assembly drawing attention to the importance of ensuring provisions protecting the rights of victims of family and domestic violence (on par with that of other States) are incorporated in the Act. The Network also provided its members with submission writing kits for those who wished to lobby for change on behalf of their own organisation.

Bail Act Review

In response to the Coroner’s 2009 Report on the Inquiry into the death of Aboriginal elder, Mr Ward, the AG’s Department assembled an Issues and Questions paper and undertook a review of the overall effectiveness and operation of the Bail Act through consultation with identified key stakeholders.

The Network was invited to provide a response to the paper and developed a submission focusing on the implications of circumstances where victims of FDV are in abusive relationships with alleged offenders.

The Network’s plans for next year’s lobbying include lobbying for the rights of victims of sexual assault and family/domestic violence in relation to criminal injuries compensation, lobbying in regards to the government’s human rights framework, continuing work with lobbying we have already commenced, as well as engaging in lobbying around other family and domestic violence inequities as they arise.

The Network would like to thank all its members and supporters who have enabled it to continue to advocate for justice for victims of domestic and family violence. The Network would also like to recognise and thank the following organisations for contributions made through funding received from the WA State Attorney-General’s Department and for their guidance and support: the Southern Communities Advocacy, Legal and Education Services (SCALES), Gosnells Community Legal Centre and Fremantle Community Legal Centre.

Heidi Guldbaek
Family Relationships Centre
CLC Collaboration

The responsibility for SCALES participation at the Perth Family Relationships Centre (PFRC) is held by Clea Brierley. Clea’s role includes attending the PFRC each month to provide legal advice to their clients; taking part in the monthly roster to provide advice and guidance to PFRC staff; meeting and network participation and has presented and participated in their staff training program. Clea also see clients in our Rockingham office if they live locally.

The Management Committee of this network is the responsibility of the Acting Director.

Network Coordinator Report

WLC also hosts the Network Coordinator of WA CLCs partnering with Family Relationship Centres (FRCs).

The purpose of the Network is to facilitate collaboration among CLCs and FRCs. The CLCs who are partnered with FRCs ensure that legal services are available to FRC clients and delivered in partnership with FRCs in ways that enhance separating parents’ options and ability to resolve family law issues safely and in the children’s best interests.

The Australian Institute of Family Studies conducted a national survey of the CLC-FRC partnerships and in March 2011 presented a favourable report to the Attorney General (FRCs & legal assistance services partnerships - Evaluation Report). Some regional logistical gaps remain. However, where CLCs had an existing relationship with an FRC there was a seamless transition into this new phase of service provision. Development of the WA Network benefitted immensely from Kate Davis’ commitment to working collaboratively with all participants in the partnership.

Over the past year the Coordinator resourced the Network by:

- Convening monthly meetings of the participating CLCs.
- Convening regular meetings with the Perth FRC which is partnered with 5 suburban CLCs – SCALES, Northern Suburbs, Fremantle and Sussex Street including the WLC
- Developing report processes
- Attending at relevant forums
- Providing research, updates on issues and/or services relevant to the Network
- Identifying and facilitating bi monthly professional development events in collaboration with the Perth FRC e.g.
  - Legal information on parenting issues, child support, and elder abuse/financial agreements; and
  - A mediation workshop and a presentation on Child Attachment Theory
- Distribution of professional development material to CLCs outside the suburban area
- Updating a Mediation booklet for women, especially those who are at risk of or have experienced domestic violence. Redrafting the booklet in gender neutral terms for the use of other CLCs in the Network.

Thanks to all who contributed to the partnership thus far. We look forward to the coming year, to continuing the culture of collaboration and enhancing mutual respect and levels of trust between lawyers and family relationship practitioners that recognises the expertise of each in the provision of service for clients and their families.

Catherine Hall
Tenancy Service and Tenancy Advice Court Service

Tenancy Advice Court Service
SCALES is funded for one half of a full time tenant advocate position from the Rental Accommodation Fund which is managed by the Department of Commerce.

Our tenant advocate Danielle Healey’s core work has become the weekly TACS roster at the Rockingham Magistrates Court.

The Rockingham Magistrates Court holds its tenancy matters each Tuesday. SCALES has at least one person there each week to provide assistance to any tenants who need it. This is to try to deflect matters from the Court or at least ensure that tenants are making informed decisions.

There are still many tenants who do not appear at Court for many reasons. For those who do attend the Court, and where TACS is involved in a matter, this involvement is appreciated by the Rockingham Magistrates Court, Real Estate Agents and Tenants alike.

The notable positive reaction of the local agents to the strong presence of TACS officers is resulting in positive benefits flowing to the tenants.

This year the TACS (Tenancy Advice Court Service) team has continued to provide legal advice, negotiation and representation services to tenants attending the Rockingham Magistrates Court. Danielle has been accompanied by a number of law students throughout the year who have all given positive feedback on the experience.

During 2010-2011 the TACS team provided advice to in 234 instances and from them opened 22 ongoing files, 20 clients were represented in Court.

To better promote the attendance of clients at Court and the TACS service offered, Danielle continues to attend forum meetings, networking and facilitate networking and information sessions.

Together with strong relationships between TACS, Court officers and agents, the local community and community services have responded well to Danielle’s collaborative approach.

Our continued presence at the Magistrates Court has resulted in positive outcomes. Advocates can acquire an understanding of the areas agents know the least about, and in some cases refer them to the RTA or other resources to ensure they comply with legislative requirements. Agents have begun bringing clients to TACS officers for assistance prior to the matter being called to facilitate negotiation.

Significantly, TACS has been able to assist tenants by either getting the matter adjourned for further legal advice, having the matter stood down to the end of the list or by negotiating above the legislated allowances for hardship cases.

On the whole, agents have been happy to engage with the tenant advocates, although new agents are often surprised by the service.

An average of three to five tenants are seen each week at Court. The matters are predominantly of termination, vacant possession or bond disputes. Although advocates encourage discussions and negotiations between tenants and agents, the fact that tenants may be evicted into homelessness has a considerable bearing on the way individual issues are dealt with, this is either with or without assistance.

Generally, Danielle tries to assist tenants rather than stand in their place, unless the matter is complicated, the tenant is not able to represent themselves or the balance of knowledge is far outweighed toward the agent or landlord. The core work of TACS advocates is termination and orders for vacant possession by the agent.

Danielle’s caseload comes from the TACS court roster.

SCALES Tenancy services
In addition to the TACS service at the Court, SCALES continues to work with tenants when they approach SCALES directly. This work is referred to the Law Clinic and the students relish the opportunity to negotiate on behalf of the tenants.
with landlords and agents and sometimes represent these clients. If there is no success in the negotiation, the client may be represented by TACS in the first instance.

The Law Clinic provided advice to 46 clients and opened files on 3 of these matters. Overall 211 clients were assisted between the TACS and Law Clinic tenant advice service.

**Networking and Professional Development**

Monthly tenancy network forum meetings have provided a valuable link to other WA tenant advocates. Facilitated by TASWA the meetings give advocates the opportunity to discuss client and local issues.

Most importantly, the network has been able to provide feed-back on law reform issues and allows a considered response to advocacy related matters.

Danielle maintains her place on the South West Metropolitan Regional Working Group on Homelessness; this allows her to feed into this group the types of issues our clients face in maintaining their tenancies.

Danielle presented a two day workshop for local community service workers whose clients have tenancy issues. This is a valuable service to ensure that local workers have a current knowledge of tenants’ rights and responsibilities and are also aware of SCALES services.

This year Danielle also facilitated a two day training by Tenants Advice Service for people from Mandurah, Gosnells, Fremantle, Kwinana and Rockingham.

By educating the community on rights and representation they will be better able to approach and understand the court system. This should make them more likely to attend court, more likely to assert their rights and more likely to represent themselves in the first instance. This should follow a legal advice session or be referred on after specific criteria is met.

Danielle Healey
Tenant Advocate

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**Immigration Practice**

The tender for the Immigration Application Advice and Assistance Scheme (IAAAS) services for the period 2011 to 2014 was announced in early 2011. After preparing a tender to provide services in the community and in detention, we were advised that we had been unsuccessful. After providing IAAAS services for over 12 years, this has been a hard blow to SCALES.

The consequence of this loss of funding has meant that we could no longer take on immigration matters and that the immigration practice will be wound down we can locate new funding.

During the year we assisted clients with protection, family reunion, family violence visas and visitor or student visas. Clients came from 25 countries of origin.

SCALES has always had a high success rate when seeking protection for clients.

SCALES assisted 52 people with applications at Primary, Review, Refugee and Migration Review Tribunals, the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and with requests to the Minister of Immigration pursuant to the exercise of his public interest powers under section 417 of the Migration Act 1958.
The Lawyers Practice Manual (WA) (the manual) is a joint publication by Thomson Reuters and SCALES CLC. I have been in the role of co-ordinator since January 2011.

The manual outlines law and procedure across 19 discrete legal practice areas, each made up of one or more chapters. Lawyers contribute on a pro bono basis. The manual provides a wealth of legal information for young lawyers and those more experienced who are new to a particular practice area.

The current Commissioning Editor at Thomsons’ is Klara Major. Klara came on board this year so that Alison McLennan could focus on her role as Managing Editor for Thomsons Legal Tax and Accounting publications.

I have met with Alison and/or Klara by way of teleconference on three occasions this year to review the publication schedules and share notes on various chapters and possible authors.

**Chapter Updates to June 2011**

Chapters 3.10 – Stealing from a Retail Store and 13.1- Wills and Estates were updated this year by Natasha Erlandson and Susan Fielding, respectively.

**Chapter Updates due in second half of 2011**

The authors are generally practicing lawyers and operating on tight timelines.

We anticipate that there will be chapter updates by October/November 2011 for chapter 3.1 - Criminal Injuries Compensation, chapter 3.2 - Restraining Orders, chapter 5.3 – Children under the Family Law Act (Cth) and the Family Court Act (WA), chapter 6.7 – Proceedings in the State Administrative Tribunal, chapters 9.1 and 9.2 The Mental Health Act and Guardianship, chapter 11– Employment, chapter 15.1 - Planning, chapter 19.1 - Intellectual Property and chapter 19.2 – Technology.

**New Authors in 2011**

Quite a number of existing authors have agreed to review and update their chapter(s). Two new authors are on board to update the Mental Health Act, Guardianship and Intellectual Property chapters. Another is presently giving consideration as to whether or not he has capacity to contribute to the manual.

**Currency of Chapters**

Given developments in the law there are several chapters that need to be reviewed and updated. The next set of chapters that we are focussing on is Bail, Supreme Court Appeals, Child Protection Orders, Incorporation, Anti-Discrimination and Residential Tenancies.

We are also searching for an author willing to draft the, as yet unwritten, Environment Law chapter.

**Miscellaneous**

Finally, two authors are exploring the possibility of the publication of a monograph/handbook based on their chapters. The handbooks would assist practitioners, lay people and others working in the area.

We are currently in discussions with Thomsons’ to ascertain whether or not they will publish and, if not, the nature of the copyright and permissions that attach to those chapters.

Marion Huntly
Student Perspectives

Marsouw Venter
It has been really full on. But it has been a great experience for me. I would very much like to work in this kind of an environment and have gained great insight about how our justice system works. It has been really interesting with regards to having different issues and clients come in every week. I was talking to one of the other students the other day and she mentioned that she is not sure that this is what she wants to do. I reminded her that SCALES or a CLC is designed to take on a number of clients from different areas of law and that working in a private law firm that deals only with contract for example would be much different.

It has been a real eye opener into what can be expected of me next year and I just hope that I will be able to live up to that expectation. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be a part of the student clinic.

Kara Churchward
Thank you for providing me with this great opportunity to learn about myself, others, legal issues, develop skills and explore what the future as a lawyer may involve. Working at SCALES has been intense but also very rewarding. I have enjoyed helping clients and working under the supervision of very supportive supervisors and staff. I am also really grateful that I have worked so closely to Jess, Nish and Michelle as we have developed friendships that I am sure will continue after our time at SCALES.

Andrew Cowie
SCALES was the most worthwhile unit I took over the course of my degree. It was also the most enjoyable unit by far. The interaction with real clients who face real legal (and sometimes non-legal) problem is extremely valuable.

SCALES has filled me with the confidence to know that I will be able to ‘cut it’ in legal practice. Before SCALES I did not think I would be able to meet the high pressure and standards associated with the legal profession. Now I feel I am capable contributing as a successful practitioner to the Western Australian legal system.

I enjoyed the independence at SCALES. I liked being left to my own volition to manage my workload. I never felt truly stressed to the point where I became overwhelmed. Therefore, I think the solicitors and the administration staff did a fantastic job of managing the allocation of work to students. Further, I liked that the students all got the opportunity to work in different areas of law. I felt the allocation of files and AOs was fair. Once or twice I felt I did not have the chance to express my ideas fully to supervisors. I assume this is partially due to the heavy burden shouldered by the supervisors and the fact that everyone has bad days/hours/minutes. However, as far as criticisms go, this is a very small one. On the whole I found the supervisors to be patent, understanding and incredibly helpful. I thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the SCALES team this semester.

Divvya Doss
I really enjoyed my SCALES experience. I have not only learnt about the practical application of law, but I have learnt about myself and what type of person I am.

I lacked a lot of confidence at the beginning of the semester (with clients and my work) but I slowly started to nurture the feedback I was given. I feel I am more prepared for the workforce and I appreciate the constant support from the supervisors.

Christopher Hicks
I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at SCALES. I continue to recommend the unit to other students. As entirely unfeasible as this is, I would love to see SCALES, or some other form of practical legal education, become a core, ongoing unit at Murdoch. As a result of my time at SCALES, I feel more confident and better prepared for the work force.

Mark Cheveralls
Applying to attend SCALES was likely the best decision I made during my law degree. It is a unique learning opportunity. I have been able to apply my previous learning in a well managed and controlled environment. It has confirmed my aspiration to practice in law. It has been rewarding to be able to assist people with their legal matters. It has boosted my confidence in my own ability. I also feel much more comfortable about the internal mechanisms of legal practice. Thanks for the opportunity.
Dear Anna
I think you are back soon.
Last night I suddenly thought of you.
You’ve done your best to help me and little (child's name). I am truly appreciated it.
So I am sending you a card full of beautiful flowers to say thank you!
Because you are as beautiful as flowers!
No matter what happened, I have no regret.
Because we have tried everything we can to fight for my visa!
And when (child’s name) grows up I’ll tell him the story that a brilliant lawyer was helping mummy to stay in this country with him.
Thank you so much! July 2010

Hi Dean (TACS student)
I just wanted to say a HUGE thankyou to you for your help and advice regarding my recent court case to apply for release of my bond.
Because of your help I was well prepared and although extremely nervous, I was able to represent myself in the Magistrate’s Court. The judge found in my favour awarding me my bond in full and him the pet bond that I had already offered. He was also ordered to pay my costs.
The judge summed up by reprimanding him for breach of the tenancy act and said he much preferred the evidence of the applicant. He said that the evidence submitted by him was clearly untrue!
So once again my most sincere thanks. Your advice and guidance was invaluable
Kindest regards August 2010

Dear Clea
I wish to thank you and your Team for all your help and assistance you gave me with regard to intervening in proceedings between (other party) and my son to allow me to see my Grandchildren.
After coming up against brick walls with other organisations and solicitors we were finally referred to you by PFRC for assistance.
You found a way to help me. Through your help I now have a court date in the Family Court. I found you and your Team very helpful, compassionate and open to the feelings of a grandmother deprived of seeing her grandchildren.
Once again thank you for all your help and assistance in this matter and I will let you know how I get on in court.

Dear Anna
We thank you thank you thank you thank you thank you very much, honest we can’t find the word. (client) said to tell you that, you have changed her life, she will never ever forget you in her enter life.
We wish you a very merry Christmas and wonderful New Year, we would like to see you after xmass holidays. December 2010
Client Perspectives cont.

To SCALES and Clea

Thankyou so much with your legal advice, you gave me confidence and guidance which helped with my situation

Kind regards June 2011

Hi Clea,

I just wanted to thankyou for all of the help, advice and support you have given me. I honestly couldn’t have managed without you and feel extremely fortunate I found you. I know you have gone above and beyond for me and for that I am very grateful.

You have given me some excellent advice, listened patiently and supported me not just as a lawyer but as another woman.

I think you are completely right in your analysis of the current situation and not reacting is by far the best approach to take. I am far better with him out of my life and I have a lot to look forward to hopefully...

Thanks again for everything

June 2011

Dear Clea and Kylie

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you both for all the help you gave (client’s son). With all your wonderful help and understanding we were able to get (child) back in our lives again. I cannot praise you guys enough for all your knowledge and the time you spent explaining all the details of the paperwork he needed to go to court.

Without SCALES I don’t know how (client’s son) would have been able to get his little boy back in his life.

Life is just fantastic now with (child) 3 weekends per month Friday until Sunday and he has had no dramas from his ex at this stage.

I know that SCALES have helped so many people and will be needed for ever more in today’s society.

A HUGE thankyou from the bottom of our hearts. Take Care
Volunteer and Pro Bono Support

SCALES continues to have a host of people who give their time and efforts to work within the Centre.

Margaret Flower comes in each week and works through the loose leaf filing that we leave to her and any other little tasks that we dare. Margaret has also been working with Rhonda on the process of archiving and destruction of client files.

We are very lucky to have such a highly experienced and efficient person available to us so regularly. Thanks Margaret!

The SCALES Management Committee members give their time each month to ensure the service is properly run. Many thanks to Michael Perrella who retired after 7 years on the committee.

A silent but valuable group of volunteers are the chapter authors to the Lawyer’s Practice Manual Western Australia. These people share their extensive expertise through us with many practitioners and others in need of easy to read, comprehensive overviews of Western Australian laws.

We also have of course a number of solicitors and law students who step up when asked to provide pro bono advice to clients, opinions to SCALES solicitors and students or to ensure that the work of SCALES continues to be passed on.

Special thanks to our Patron Chris Shanahan SC who is always willing to take a call and give us guidance, and really that is what we need of a Patron.

To all of the volunteers in whatever capacity you support us, we would like to say a very big thank you!
Community Relationships

SCALES has excellent relationships with many local services. Staff work closely with many of these services (government and not for profit) and their staff to provide client services, staff training, local and regional planning on service provision, collaboration for events, issues and community education and lobbying government and departments for resources for the region.

Community Legal Education

SCALES staff provide community legal education, participate in committees, networks, collaborate with services in events as well as meeting with local services to ensure SCALES profile is maintained.

With no specifically funded community education workers, the staff share the role of providing education to the community.

- Tenant Advocate, Danielle has again organised and presented an accommodation and tenancy information sessions to local community workers. These community workers often have clients with homelessness and tenancy matters and were very appreciative of the opportunity to meet other workers and learn about appropriate services. Many of these service providers had never met and were not aware of each other!

- Danielle also worked with the Tenants Advice Service to provided tenancy training to people from the Rockingham, Mandurah and Gosnells region.

- Presentation of Family Law Information Sessions continues on a regular basis. Both staff and Law Clinic students present the sessions. Clea has updated the content and the presentation to ensure its accuracy and relevance.

- Gai made her annual presentation to a group of Murdoch University community development students on CLCs, access to justice issues and SCALES services.

Community days and festivals are a great way of raising our profile with community members.

- This year SCALES had an information stall or table at the Kwinana Hub Community Day, the Kwinana Festival, O'Day each semester, Rockingham Autumn Centre open day and the Rockingham Festival.

Committee and Network participation

- SCALES staff members are active in previously mentioned family and domestic violence committees – FAAST, SMIFAS coordinating committee.

- Clea is active in the Perth Family Relationships Centre collaboration as well as the pilot Coordinated Family Dispute Resolution service at Legal Aid WA.

- Novela is a member of the St Nicholas community Centre management committee ensuring that SCALES has a voice in the management of the centre.

- Gai participates on NACLC and CLCAWA sub committees including both associations’ conference committees and the CLSIS User Group which is a national committee working on the updating of the CLSIS database.

- Anna maintains her participation in the national human rights network which is active in a number of areas including development of Shadow UN Reports on Australia’s performance meeting the requirements of UN conventions as a signatory of those conventions, such as the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

- Danielle is active with the Tenant Advocate WA network.

- SCALES staff continue to work closely with Gosnells, Fremantle and Women’s Law Centres on the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network.

- The sector continues to be the primary source of continuing professional development and training opportunities for staff.

- A local committee was formed in mid 2010 to make preparations for a celebration of the Centenary of International Women’s Day. Over 100 women from the Rockingham and
Kwinana community attended this very successful lunch event which was co-sponsored by SCALES, Lucy Saw Centre, Soroptimists and the South Coastal Women’s Health Service.

- As planned, the launch of the homeless community legal centre StreetLaw saw the SCALES, Mallesons Salvation Army Genesis Centre legal clinic project handed over to the new service.

**Conferences**

The National Association of Community Legal Centres annual conference was held in Melbourne in late October. Over 400 delegates attended the conference. New supervisor Dave Fort and Gai Walker, Acting Director attended the conference, Dave took the opportunity to attend the Youth network meeting and Gai attended the Administrators network meeting.

Following the conference Dave and Gai visited the Springvale Monash Community Legal Service and the Monash Oakleigh Legal Service. Both of these clinical legal education facilities are hosted by the Monash School of Law.

The WA Tenancy conference was held in February with Danielle and Gai attending. Almost 80 CLC tenant advocates, managers and CLE workers as well as workers from other services attended. As always the conference was well run and was very useful in both content and opportunities to network.

**Visitors**

A number of people visited SCALES during the year.

The Hon Michael Mischin MLC, Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney General presented a cheque from Lotterywest for the fitout, furniture and equipment upgrade and organisational review. As a Barrister and Solicitor and former Senior State Prosecutor with Director of Public Prosecutions for Western Australia, Michael was aware of SCALES’ work and was able to stay and observe a morning in the clinic.

Local MPs, the Hon Phil Edman MLC and Paul Papalia MLA also visited SCALES and were able to sit in on the start of a clinic day where the students meet with supervisors and discuss the new client matter expected and ongoing cases updates. Both were very impressed with the work that we do.

Craig Longman, a Senior Researcher from the Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning at the NSW UTS came to SCALES to observe the work of the clinic as well as speak to staff. UTS have recently commenced implementation of a Clinical Legal Education program and Craig was investigating different models.

Two new staff members from the Community Legal Centres Association of Western Australia came to SCALES to introduce themselves and get SCALES’ perspective on the work and needs of WA CLCs. Myles Kunzli is the new Executive Officer and Lee Collis has been appointed to run the Governance and Management Project.

*Hon Michael Mischin MLC sitting in on Case Conference*
Law and Policy Reform

The main issues of law reform taken up this year were:

- Submission for Reforming the CIC Act through the Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network
- Reform of clinical legal practice and funding; this has been followed up with a fully funded research project of which Anna is a part.
- The Australian Services Union campaign to increase wage rates for workers in the community sector continues.
- Consultation and development of the submission to the NGO (Shadow) report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, to be presented next year in Geneva.

Access and Equity

SCALES is committed to equality and justice. We recognise that there are barriers to access to justice for specific groups including Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, People with disabilities, People from non English speaking backgrounds (NESB) and culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds (CaLD), People from non Anglo Saxon Celtic backgrounds, Young people, Older people, Gay, Lesbian, Bi-sexual, Transgender and Intersex people, People living in poverty and people living with HIV and AIDS.

We strive to create a society where all members of the society can participate fully and have their contributions recognised. SCALES’ role is the provision of legal services to disadvantaged members of the community and legal education to students. We are working to remove barriers in both these areas and work towards a fully inclusive and participatory society. To achieve this, our organisation has to be both accessible and equitable. SCALES strives to provide an accessible service, with particular reference to the following:

1 Physical surroundings
   1.1 accessible by public transport (bus stop 100 metres from building)
   1.2 access for people with disabilities (wide door ways, ground floor, disabled parking within 10 metres, play area, toys and activities for children etc)
   1.3 Interview rooms with enough room to accommodate wheel chairs, prams and support people to attend interviews.
   1.4 Environment with artwork, posters, information for people from diverse backgrounds.

2 Service attributes
   2.1 Flexible free client centred service including the option for telephone advice in appropriate circumstances
   2.2 Friendly, welcoming atmosphere at reception
   2.3 Interpreters made available to clients for Auslan as well as other languages at no cost.
   2.4 Appropriately qualified Interpreters are guaranteed for all clients who need them

3 Attitudinal
   3.1 Respectful service to diverse cultures including religion, young people, indigenous people, people from non English speaking backgrounds, same sex and transgender people

A commitment to access and equity will underpin all operations of SCALES.

SCALES staff, students and volunteers must operate within the Access and Equity policies of the Murdoch University. These can be found at http://www.murdoch.edu.au/index/policies/
Lotterywest Grant

Refurbishment of Furniture and Equipment

In January this year, after a great deal work by Novela Aleksic, Finance Officer, our Lotterywest grant application was approved. The request included funding for an organisational and structural review of SCALES; replacement of office equipment including computers, photocopier and printers, a refit of reception and installation of storage in the kitchen, a compactus and new furniture. As you can see this was no small task to prepare the submission.

Novela then worked towards the finalisation of orders and arrangements for the office furniture and refit. The entire project was complete by the time Semester One commenced.

With this funding, the Rockingham office has had a transformation from old and tired furniture and equipment to a modern and stylish workplace. This is all thanks to Novela.

As many of you who have visited the office since then will know, the office looks fantastic. It has enhanced the working environment for both the staff and students. The installation of the new compactus has allowed us to bring all of our archived files from Rockingham Lotteries House and vacate those offices; this has saved us about $6,000 per year in rent.

With SCALES expecting new furniture, we contacted a number of local agencies to offer the furniture being replaced to them. Enthusiastic acceptances were received and furniture and equipment donated to the Rockingham Low Cost Food Bard, Medina Aboriginal Cultural Centre, June O’Connor Centre, Lucy Saw Centre and the St Nicholas Church.

Organisation Review

As soon as the approval was given we engaged consultant Jill Cameron and Associates to conduct the review. Their brief was to carry out a comprehensive review of SCALES operations and the current management and operating structure to ensure the organisation and its services reflect current best practice in the community legal service and clinical legal sector and to review the relevance of the service for the local community.

Some points from the Executive Summary of the report noted that:

- SCALES operation is consistent with the operation of Community Legal Centres and Community Legal Education Centres nationally and in Western Australia, at the same time reflecting its history, and community issues in the area in which it provides services. SCALES also makes an important contribution to community legal centre policy and practice at both State and National levels.

- SCALES’ relationship with Murdoch University Law School is extremely positive and is fundamental to its operation and the quality of service provided.

- SCALES is highly valued by clients, organisations in the Rockingham/Kwinana region, all three levels of Government, past and present law students who participate in the Clinical Legal Education program.

- SCALES meets service standards and outcomes defined in funding agreements.

- Resources (both funds and people) currently limit SCALES’ growth and results in work overload across the service. Senior staff should periodically review systems, processes and workflow patterns with a view to jointly identifying potential improvements.

- Current Management Committee membership includes a range of skills and experience necessary for good governance. Appointment of a lawyer from a large law firm may strengthen the Committee, in particular in relation to promotion of SCALES within the legal fraternity which is important for succession planning, sponsorship/fundraising and promoting SCALES role in increasing the level of skills and ‘job readiness’ of students who have participated in clinical legal education.

- SCALES should capitalise on:
  - its good standing in the Rockingham/Kwinana region to build a financial support base within the business community
  - its good standing in the legal fraternity to
The demand for SCALES’ services will increase along with the population growth in the Rockingham/Kwinana region. The organisation will need to plan for growth. More strategic use of Community Legal Education, an increased role for volunteers in some activities and outreach programs should be considered in planning for service expansion. The structure and programs in place at Springvale-Monash Legal Service provide a useful model, given that SMLS services a significantly larger and more diverse population than SCALES does.

Filling the proposed General Manager position should be a priority for the Management Committee which should aspire to generate sufficient funds for three key new positions (Coordinator Community Legal Education, Community Development Officer and Coordinator of Volunteers) in the next five years.

A number of the recommendations have already acted upon. The management committee has participated in training on governance, reading financial reports and risk management.

Policy and Procedures are being updated through the NACLC accreditation program and all human resource documents will be updated with the assistance of an HR consultant.

The report has affirmed our existing work while suggesting some opportunities to for sustainability and flexibility to address the anticipated increase in demand for our services as the local population increases.
### Funding

SCALES has been successful in attracting funding from a number of sources over the years. In the 2010/2011 financial year funding was received from the following sources:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funder</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
<td>Perth Family Relationship Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$125,400</td>
<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCLSP</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>Advanced Family Law Clinic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCP</td>
<td>$42,000</td>
<td>FAAST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIAC</td>
<td>$109,000</td>
<td>IAAAS - community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIAC</td>
<td>$11,000</td>
<td>IAAAS - detention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoC</td>
<td>$51,500</td>
<td>Tenancy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DV - State Project</td>
<td>$125,000</td>
<td>DVLW Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallesons</td>
<td>$4,600</td>
<td>Donation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch University</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>Support for Increased Rent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Law, Murdoch University</td>
<td>$88,700</td>
<td>Clinical Legal Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomson Reuters</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Lawyers Practice Manual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$651,700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murdoch University</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>IT Support (In Kind)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School of Law, Murdoch University</td>
<td>$138,000</td>
<td>Salaries paid for 1 staff member (In Kind)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$819,700</td>
<td>Income and In Kind</td>
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</table>

**CCLSP** Commonwealth Community Legal Services Program  
**CLSP WA** Community Legal Services Program Western Australia  
**DCP** Department for Child Protection  
**DIAC** Department of Immigration and Citizenship  
**DoC** Department of Commerce  
**DVLW** Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network  
**FAAST** Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team  
**IAAAS** Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme
Committees and Networks

SCALES staff participated in the following committees and networks:

- Admin Workers Network (NACLCL)
- Clinical Legal Education (CLeD) Network Australia
- Community Legal Centre Association (CLCAWA) Legal Practice and Profession Indemnity Committee
- Community Legal Education Workers Network WA and NACLCL
- Domestic Violence Legal Workers Network (DVLWN)
- Family Abuse and Advocacy Support Team (FAAST)
- Family Court Reference Group
- Family Law Network
- Family Law Reform Focus Group
- Human Rights Network
- Local Service Units (Tenancy Network)
- LPMWA Editorial Committee
- Mandurah Family Relationships Centre Consortium
- NACLCL 2010 and 2011 Conference Organising Committee
- South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service SMIFAS
- South West Metropolitan Regional Working Group on Homelessness
- St Nicholas Community Centre Management Committee
- WA CLCs Family Relationships Centre Consortium

SCALES is a member of the following organisations:

- CLCAWA
- Consumer Credit Legal Service
- Family Law Practitioners Association
- Law Society of Western Australia
- Migration Institute of Australia
- NACLCL
- Refugee Council of Australia
- Shelter WA
- South Coastal Women’s Health Service
- Tenants Advice Service WA Inc.
- WA Council of Social Services (WACOSS)
- Women Lawyers of WA
- Women’s Council for Family and Domestic Violence Services (WA)
- Women’s Law Centre
- Youth Affairs Council of WA (YACWA)
Client Statistics

In the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011, SCALES gave advice to 772 people in the form of one off advice, information and referral, case work, negotiation, advocacy or representation.

Clients assisted  
(New clients 564, Repeat clients 125; Existing Clients 83)  
Information and Referral Activities (No legal advice)  
Advice (one off) Activities  
TOTAL Number of Services provided (Information, Advice and Casework)  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clients assisted</td>
<td>772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and Referral Activities (No legal advice)</td>
<td>903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advice (one off) Activities</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Number of Services provided (Information, Advice and Casework)</td>
<td>2456</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cases Ongoing (open) at 1 July 2010: 87  
Cases Opened: 179  
Cases Closed: 162  
Cases Ongoing (open) at 30 June 2011: 104  
Matters where client was represented: 56

Most Common Overall Problem Types

- 21.3% who a child lives with or spends time with
- 17.6% tenancy bond, rent, repairs, other
- 16.1% theft and related offences
- 12.6% family and domestic violence
- 7.0% injuries compensation, assaults
- 6.8% tenancy ending tenancy
- 6.9% immigration refugee / protection visa onshore / family reunion
- 4.6% civil other
- 3.5% road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences
- 3.6% family other

### Most Common Problem Types

*(These include Information and Referral, Advice and Casework)*

#### Family Law

- Who a child lives with or spends time with ............................................................ 270
- Family or domestic violence .................................................................................. 149
- Property – marriage, de facto, other ................................................................. 22
- Divorce or separation ......................................................................................... 29
- Child protection .................................................................................................. 5
- Other .................................................................................................................. 15

#### Civil Law

- Tenancy matters - termination by lessor; rent; bond; repairs; other ............... 305
- Immigration Refugee/Protection Visa ................................................................. 98
- Injuries compensation ....................................................................................... 55
- Injuries assaults ................................................................................................ 29
- Other civil legal system or process .................................................................. 26
- Other civil violence/restraining orders .............................................................. 30
- Other ................................................................................................................ 66

#### Criminal Law

- Road traffic and motor vehicle regulatory offences ........................................ 43
- Theft and related offences ............................................................................. 20
- Illicit drug offences minor ............................................................................... 8
- Property damage and environmental offences ............................................. 8
- Acts intended to cause injury .......................................................................... 4
- Offences justice procedure ........................................................................... 3
- Other ................................................................................................................ 5
Treasurer’s Report
FINANCIAL YEAR ended 30 JUNE 2011

Statement of Operations
The Statement of Operations for the year 2010-2011 shows an Operating Surplus of $124,595.52 (last year an Operating Surplus $11,390.51) inclusive of the Depreciation charge of $39,193.72 (last year a Depreciation charge $3426.83).

This surplus is influenced by the one off grant of $160,188.85 from Lotterywest which was used primarily to upgrade office equipment, that equipment being depreciated $35,354.66 in the year of purchase. Disregarding $107,168.88 of this surplus which will be expensed as depreciation in future years, this represents a surplus for the year of $17,426.64 compared to a budget of $280, which is a very satisfactory result.

Statement of Financial Position
The Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2011, shows Total Assets of $455,785.52 (last year $359,689.47).

Cash at Bank and on Term Deposit (refer to note 4a) was $322,295.22 (last year $323,843.08).

Non Current Assets (refer to note 7) were $150,930.96 minus depreciation of $38,694.70 (last year Non Current Assets of $82,834.49 minus Depreciation of $73,926.05).

Total Liabilities of $165,204.75 (last year $193,704.22) include provisions for Employee Entitlements (refer to notes 10 & 11) of $116,286.15 (last year $104,646.45) and Unexpended Grants of $19,959.10 (last year $64,592.65).

Net Current Assets of $228,273.02 (last year $200,077.53) mean SCALES can meet all of its liabilities and is in a strong financial position going into the future.

Treasurer’s Statement
I have recently taken on the role of Treasurer, filling the position previously performed for many years with distinction by Ron Hassall. I would like to acknowledge the warm welcome and willing assistance I have received from all staff and Management Committee Members, in particular the Acting Director Gai Walker and the Finance Officer Novela Aleksic. I look forward to a long and rewarding association with this worthwhile organization.

Gordon Howe
Treasurer
SCALES Management Committee
Auditors Report
Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2011.

Thompson Hughes & Co
Certified Practising Accountants

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
SOUTHERN COMMUNITIES ADVOCACY
LEGAL AND EDUCATION SERVICE INC


We have audited the accompanying financial report as set out on pages 1 to 8, being a special purpose financial report, of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. (the association) for the year ended 30 June 2010.

Committee’s Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Association Incorporation Act Western Australia and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee’s responsibilities also include designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor’s responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity’s preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.
The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting obligations under the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Southern Communities Advocacy Legal and Education Service Inc. as at 30 June 2010 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, and the Associations Incorporation Act Western Australia.

THOMPSON HUGHES & CO

ALAN THOMPSON
12 August 2010
Auditor's Certification

Southern Communities Advocacy Legal & Education Service Inc
Year ended 30 June 2010

I hereby certify that:

a) I am not a principal, member, shareholder, officer, employee or accountant of the Organisation or of a related body corporate as defined in section 9 of the Corporations Act 2001;
b) In my opinion, the attached financial statements which comprise a Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position), a Statement of Operations (Statement of Financial Performance, a Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements of the above mentioned Organisation ("the Organisation") for the stated Financial Year are:
   • Based on proper accounts and present fairly in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and
   • In accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement ---, a copy of which has been made available to me, in relation to the provision of community legal services.
c) The Statement of Financial Performance is provided in respect of Funds for all Funding Categories.
d) The audit opinion to which this certification refers is unqualified.
e) In my opinion there is no conflict of interest between myself and the Organisation or its Management Committee.

Signed: __________________________

Alan Thompson
Registered Company Auditor No 13797

Thompson Hughes & Co
12 August 2010
STATEMENT of OPERATIONS (PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT)
for the period 1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating revenues</td>
<td>Legal Aid Income</td>
<td>387,463.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td>374,283.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Service generating Income</td>
<td>44,943.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lotterywest Grant</td>
<td>160,188.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unexpended Grant</td>
<td>(19,959.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating revenues</td>
<td></td>
<td>946,920.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>783,130.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation - Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td>39,193.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total operating expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td>822,324.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td>124,595.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Loss on Disposal of F/A</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus/(Deficit) after abnormals</td>
<td></td>
<td>124,595.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opening balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td>165,985.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closing balance of accumulated surplus/(deficit)</td>
<td></td>
<td>290,580.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
BALANCE SHEET
As at 30th June 2011

The attached notes form part of and should be read in conjunction with this statement.

as at 30th June 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current assets
- Cash 4: 322,295.12 323,843.08
- Accounts receivable 5: 6,038.75 14,731.02
- Prepayments 6: 7,905.39 4,871.93
- Other: 7,310.00 7,335.00

Total current assets: 343,549.26 350,781.03

Non-current assets
- Property, Plant & Equipment 7: 150,930.96 82,834.49
  - Less: Accumulated depreciation (38,694.70) 73,926.05

Total non-current assets: 112,236.26 8,908.44

Total assets: 455,785.52 359,689.47

Current liabilities
- Accounts Payable 8: 26,632.12 22,350.17
- Accrued Expenses 9: 2,327.38 2,114.75
- Employee Entitlements 10: 66,357.64 61,645.93
- Unexpended Grant: 19,959.10 64,592.65

Total current liabilities: 115,276.24 150,703.50

Non-current liabilities
- Employee Entitlements - LSL 11: 49,928.51 43,000.72

Total non-current liabilities: 49,928.51 43,000.72

Total liabilities: 165,204.75 193,704.22

Net Assets: 290,580.77 165,985.25

Equity
- Retained earnings: 165,985.25 154,594.74
- Current Year Earnings: 124,595.52 11,390.51

Total Equity: 290,580.77 165,985.25
Statement of Changes in Equity’ for year ended 30 JUNE 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Retained Earnings</th>
<th>General Reserves</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 1 July 2009</td>
<td>154,594.74</td>
<td>182,986.52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit attribute to equity holders</td>
<td>11,390.51</td>
<td>(28,391.78)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to and from reserves:</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>— general reserves</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from retained earnings</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 JUNE 2010</td>
<td>165,985.25</td>
<td>154,594.74</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Profit attributable to equity holders</td>
<td>124,595.52</td>
<td>11,390.51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers to and from reserves:</td>
<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>— general reserves</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers from retained earnings</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance at 30 JUNE 2011</td>
<td>290,580.77</td>
<td>165,985.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. General Reserve:

The general reserve records funds set aside for future expansion of the organisation.
### Cash Flows from Operating Activities

#### Payments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Payments to Employees</td>
<td>(345,286.25)</td>
<td>(302,774.38)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suppliers</td>
<td>(812,379.16)</td>
<td>(481,650.25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>(1,157,665.41)</td>
<td>(784,424.63)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Receipts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Funding received</td>
<td>741,787.82</td>
<td>$642,958.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotterywest Grant</td>
<td>160,188.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership and Affiliation Fees received</td>
<td>140.00</td>
<td>$95.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refund of Client disbursements</td>
<td>91.20</td>
<td>$406.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received</td>
<td>4,465.02</td>
<td>$4,040.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other receipts</td>
<td>29,764.61</td>
<td>$49,162.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST Collected</td>
<td>87,641.06</td>
<td>$67,755.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>1,024,078.56</td>
<td>764,418.22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Cash used (used/provided) in Operating Activities

- (133,586.85)
- (20,006.41)

### Cash Flows from Investing Activities

#### Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Interest received on Term deposit</td>
<td>10,482.65</td>
<td>7,709.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>132,038.89</td>
<td>6,016.20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net cash (used/provided) from Investing Activities

- (1,693.13)

#### Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash at beginning of financial year</td>
<td>323,843.08</td>
<td>$342,156.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>322,295.12</td>
<td>323,843.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOTE 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to provide accounts which satisfy the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1987 to prepare accounts. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity as defined in Statement of Accounting Concepts 1: Definition of the Reporting Entity” and therefore, as there is no requirement to apply accounting concepts or standards in the preparation and presentation of these statements, no have been adopted intentionally.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1987. The statements are prepared on an accrual basis, whereby items are brought to account using the concept of matching expenditure with revenue. They are based on historic costs and do not take into account changing money values or except where specifically stated, the current values of non-current assets.

The following specific policies which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated have been applied in the preparation of these statements.

a) FIXED ASSETS
The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

b) EMPLOYEE BENEFITS
Provision is made in respect of the association's liability for holiday pay and long service leave at balance date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note 2 - INCOME</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>772,848.83</td>
<td>695,760.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>2,718.00</td>
<td>219.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>681.82</td>
<td>682.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>10,482.65</td>
<td>7,709.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended Grant</td>
<td>(19,959.10)</td>
<td>(64,592.65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lotterywest Grant</td>
<td>160,188.85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>946,920.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>704,371.87</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 3 - OPERATING EXPENSES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note 3 - OPERATING EXPENSES</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note 4 - RECONCILIATION of CASH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a) Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BankWest - Net Saver account 88,078.79 83,701.37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BankWest account 55,963.23 71,919.57</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petty Cash float 300.00 300.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B/West Term Deposit - Emp. Entitl's 177,953.10 167,922.14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 322,295.12 323,843.08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b) Reconciliation of Net Cash used in Operating Activities to Operating Results</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Result 124,595.52 11,390.51</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation 39,193.72 3,426.83</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets Purchased (142,521.54) (6,016.20)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(increase)/ decrease in Debtors 5,658.81 (5,552.68)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease) in Creditors 4,494.58 (6,912.72)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unexpended Grants/increase (44,633.55) (12,396.24)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease) in Provisions 11,639.50 (2,252.78)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>increase / (decrease)other-Bond 25.00 (0.00)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash provided by Operating Activities (1,547.96) (18,313.28)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Note 5 - RECEIVABLES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors 2,469.69 11,613.65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bankwest - Interest on Term Deposit 3,569.06 3,117.37</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade debtors-general 0.00 0.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 6,038.75 14,731.02</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Note 6 - PREPAYMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Insurance</td>
<td>622.61</td>
<td>421.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association Liability</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>455.79</td>
<td>455.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company Practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate</td>
<td>6,060.00</td>
<td>2,870.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscriptions</td>
<td>766.99</td>
<td>715.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership 2010/11</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>409.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7,905.39</td>
<td>4,871.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 7 - PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Add</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Depreciation</th>
<th>Acc. Dep’n</th>
<th>WDV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office Eq.</td>
<td>35,139.22</td>
<td>35,139.22</td>
<td>13,613.98</td>
<td>13,613.98</td>
<td>21,525.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Furn.</td>
<td>62,614.45</td>
<td>65,007.67</td>
<td>13,702.90</td>
<td>14,195.51</td>
<td>50,812.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Eq.</td>
<td>43,904.23</td>
<td>49,920.43</td>
<td>11,013.20</td>
<td>10,021.57</td>
<td>39,898.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Fitout</td>
<td>863.64</td>
<td>863.64</td>
<td>863.64</td>
<td>863.64</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>142,521.54</td>
<td>150,930.96</td>
<td>39,193.72</td>
<td>38,694.70</td>
<td>112,236.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 8 - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tax Office -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAYG</td>
<td>8,158.00</td>
<td>6,252.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Tax Office -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GST</td>
<td>18,474.12</td>
<td>16,097.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FBP due</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>26,632.12</td>
<td>22,349.79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note 9 - ACCRUED EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity - St Nicholas CC</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Training</td>
<td>1,220.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>379.64</td>
<td>1,201.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers Comp Insurance</td>
<td>229.65</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photocopier maintenance</td>
<td>148.38</td>
<td>62.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Fee</td>
<td>35.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Disbursement</td>
<td>48.65</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interpreting</td>
<td>146.30</td>
<td>300.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Equipment</td>
<td>119.76</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other-Archive</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>2,327.38</td>
<td>2,114.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Note 10 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS for HOLIDAY PAY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Pay provision as at 30/06/10</td>
<td>61,645.93</td>
<td>47,821.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment to provision 2010/2011</td>
<td>4,711.71</td>
<td>13,824.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holiday Pay provision as at 30/06/11</td>
<td>66,357.64</td>
<td>61,645.93</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 11 - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS for LONG SERVICE LEAVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long Service Leave provision 30/06/10</td>
<td>43,000.72</td>
<td>59,078.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment to provision 2010/2011</td>
<td>6,927.79</td>
<td>(16,077.60)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Service Leave provision 30/06/11</td>
<td>49,928.51</td>
<td>43,000.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 12 - RESOURCES PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE

During the year ended 30 June 2011, Murdoch University School of Law provided resources for the equivalent of two Law Clinic Supervisors. One is employed in the School of Law, is a Senior Lecturer, Clinic Supervisor and also the Course Coordinator. Funding is provided directly to SCALES to employ the second Law Clinic Supervisor position. This contribution to SCALES amounts to $226,850.58 in total.
Sponsors, Supporters and Partners

SCALES Management Committee and Staff would once again like to thank the following organisations for their generous support throughout the 2010/11 year and look forward to continuing these associations in the future.

- Allen’s Arthur Robinson
- Anglicare partnership for Mandurah Family Relationships Centre
- Child Protection, WA Department for Commerce, WA Department of
- Community Legal Centres Association Western Australia
- Community Legal Services Program, Commonwealth
- Community Legal Services Program, Western Australia
- Fremantle Community Legal Centre
- Gosnells Community Legal Centre
- Immigration & Citizenship, Commonwealth Department of
- Law Society of Western Australia Public Purposes Trust Fund
- Legal Aid Western Australia
- Lotterywest
- Lucy Saw Centre Association
- Mandurah Family Relationships Centre
- Murdoch University
- Murdoch University IT Services
- Murdoch University School of Law
- National Association of Community Legal Centres
- Northern Suburbs Community Legal Centre
- Perth Family Relationships Centre
- School of Law, Murdoch University
- South Coastal Women’s Health Services
- South Metropolitan Integrated Family Abuse Service (SMIFAS)
- Sussex Street Community Law Service
- Thomson Reuters
- Women’s Law Centre